Alberta Finance

Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 2001 TO NOVEMBER 9, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Building Permits ($ millions)	September			The value of building permits in Canada declined 1.2% in September, but is up 9.2% on a year-to-date basis. The value of non-residential permits fell by 3.0%, while residential permits increased by 0.2%. Alberta's monthly 5.7% decrease in building permits was primarily due to a decline in the non-residential sector (-14.9%), which was partially offset by an increase in the residential (2.1%) sector. On a year-to-date basis, building permits are up 9.6% in Alberta.
Alberta	533.2	-5.7%	23.1%	
Canada	3,214.1	-1.2%	-3.8%	
New Housing Price Index	September			Overall in Canada, new house prices in September were up 2.9% over September of last year, with the largest increases again posted by Ottawa-Hull (8.6%) and Montreal (4.5%), followed by Quebec (3.2%). Calgary and Edmonton continued to show steady price growth at 3.0% and 2.0% respectively. Windsor (-0.1%) again experienced a decline in new house prices, while six urban centres posted no change in new housing prices from August.
Canada	106.7	0.2%	2.9%	
Edmonton	114.6	0.1%	2.0%	
Calgary	136.5	0.4%	3.0%	
(1992=100)				
Urban Housing Starts (thousands)	October			Total housing starts in Canada rose in October by 12.7% to 173,500 units, while urban housing starts rose by 12.8% to 152,000 units. Seven provinces posted increases in housing starts, with the largest percentage increases in New Brunswick (129.2%) and Saskatchewan (75.0%). Newfoundland (-14.3%) saw the only decrease. Alberta's housing starts increased 11.4% in October to 28,300, up 19.4% from October 2000.
Alberta	28,300	11.4%	19.4%	
Canada	152,000	12.8%	12.2%	